

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08
INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 PA-01 USIE-00 SS-15
NSCE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 /106 W
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O P 152111Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 171
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

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FROM USREP ICAO

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO
SUBJECT: ICAO COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE

REF: A. ICAO COUNCIL WP 6704, B. STATE 66173

1. ONLY ACTION TAKEN TODAY WAS COUNCIL MEMBERS AGREED WITH
ASSENT TO ADMISSION OF ISRAEL AS OBSERVER WHICH CARRIES WITH
IT RIGHT TO EXPRESS VIEW BUT NOT VOTE.

2. ON MARCH 14 APPROXIMATELY 5:30-7:00 P.M. USREP CONFERRED
WITH UKREP RE BEST WAY TO NON-POLITICIZE AND
POLARIZE ICAO COUNCIL RE ITEM 7 SUBJECT PAPER. UKREP FAVORED
USREP, FRG REP, AUSTRALIAN REP AND PRESIDENT COUNCIL KOTAITE
WITH HIS STATEMENT (TEXT QUOTED PARA 7) WHICH
HE AFFIRMS AS OF TEN MINUTES AGO THAT HE WILL PRESENT FRIDAY
MORNING. BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT MADE YESTERDAY, KOTAITE TO
RECOGNIZE UKREP FIRST. AT CONCLUSION OF HIS STATEMENT HE WILL
STATE AS FOLLOWS: "I THEREFORE MOVE, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT THE
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PROPOSALS IN CWP 6704 BE SET ASIDE AND THAT THE SYG BE DIRECTED TO
REPLY TO THE SYG OF THE UNITED NATIONS THAT HE HAS DRAWN THE
ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL TO THOSE RESOLUTIONS AND THAT IT WILL BE
FOR THE COUNCIL IN DUE TIME TO DECIDE ON WHAT ACTION, IF ANY,
IT SHOULD TAKE, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF ITS CONSITUTIONAL
RESPONSIBILITIES, IN RESPONSE TO ANY SPECIFIC REQUESTS FOR ACTION
THAT MAY ARISE THEREFROM."

3. MY PRIOR CONSULTATIONS WITH ARAB STATES IS THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK ON ITEM 7, BUT WOULD WITHHOLD DEBATE AND COMMENT IF NOT CHALLENGED BY ISRAEL OR OTHER MEMBER STATES.

4. ISRAELI OBSERVER INDICATES HE WILL NOT MAKE A COMMENT IF UK MOTION CARRIES.

5. THEREFORE, USREP'S VIEW IS THAT IT WOULD BE MOST UNWISE FOR USREP TO SINGLE OUT PARA 7 OF 23 PARAS FOR DEBATE AND URGENTLY REQUESTS THAT DEPARTMENT CONCUR IN PROCEDURE OUTLINED ABOVE.

6. IN THE ALTERNATIVE USREP COULD PROCEDURALLY REQUEST FOLLOWING IN LIEU OF UK'S MOTION "THAT THE PROPOSALS IN CWP 6704 BE RETURNED TO SYG/UN AS BEYOND THE AIMS OR OBJECTIVE OF ICAO." THIS WOULD INCLUDE NOT ONLY ITEM 7 BUT TOTAL CONTENTS OF 6704. USREP DOES NOT WANT TO TAKE THIS POSITION FOR FEAR THAT WESTERN DELS HERETOFORE COUNSELED MIGHT FAIL TO SECOND AND REGARD THIS AS A DEPARTURE FROM TACTIC HERETOFORE AGREED UPON.

7. TEXT OF UKREP'S PROPOSED SPEECH TO BE DELIVERED FRIDAY FOLLOWS: QUOTE: MR. PRESIDENT. YOU HAVE INVITED GENERAL COMMENTS ON CWP 6704. I HAVE A NUMBER OF COMMENTS ON THE DETAIL OF THE PAPER WHICH WE WILL COME TO IN DUE COURSE, BUT I WOULD LIKE FIRST TO VOICE MY MORE FUNDAMENTAL CONCERN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ABOUT THE PAPER AS A WHOLE. I SHOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THESE CONCERNS ARE NOT RELATED TO THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INDIVIDUAL PROPOSITIONS COVERED BY THE UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS. I AM CONCERNED AT THE ROLE THAT ICAO APPEARS TO BE ADOPTING IN THIS CONTEXT, A ROLE ABOUT WHICH I FEEL VERY UNEASY. I AM A MEMBER OF THIS COUNCIL. I AM ALSO A MEMBER OF THE HUMAN RACE. AS A MEMBER OF THE HUMAN RACE I HAVE A GREAT INTEREST IN THE VITAL ISSUES WHICH ARE BROUGHT TO PROMINENCE IN THESE RESOLUTIONS COMING FROM THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. FEW WOULD DENY THAT THESE ARE MATTERS OF GREAT MOMENT, OF VITAL INTEREST TO MANKIND, BUT AS A MEMBER OF THIS COUNCIL I HAVE LOOKED IN VAIN FOR THE RELEVANCE OF THIS MATERIAL TO THE RESPONSIBILITIES THAT WE HAVE WITHIN ICAO, RESPONSIBILITIES PLACED UPON US BY THE CHICAGO CONVENTION. IF I WERE TO SUGGEST THAT THESE RESOLUTIONS BE REFERRED TO THE AIR NAVIGATION COMMISSION YOU WOULD LAUGH AT ME, AND RIGHTLY SO. THERE IS IN THEM NOTHING THAT HAS THE REMOTEST BEARING ON THE WORK OF THE ANC, WORK WHICH LIES AT THE VERY KERNEL OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CIVIL AVIATION. NONE OF THE RESOLUTIONS WITH WHICH WE HAVE TO DEAL WOULD CALL FOR THE ALTERNATION OF EVEN A COMMA IN THE ANNEXES TO THE CONVENTION. I DRAW ATTENTION TO THIS ABSURDITY SIMPLY TO

UNDERLINE THE IRRELEVANCE OF WHAT WE ARE BEING ASKED TO DO IN RELATION TO OUR RESPONSIBILITIES. I DO NOT DENY THAT THESE ARE MATTERS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE, BUT THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK IS THE FORUM IN WHICH THEY SHOULD BE DISCUSSED. THESE RESOLUTIONS WERE NOT THOUGHT UP IN AN AFTERNOON; THEY WERE NOT EVEN THOUGHT UP IN A MONTH, THEY ACCUMULATED IN THE DISCUSSIONS OF THE WHILE OF THE 32ND SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, OVER A CONSIDERABLE PERIOD OF TIME.

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CAN THEY HAVE SO MUCH SIGNIFICANCE FOR ICAO EVEN IN THE EYES OF THE UNITED NATIONS ITSELF; ARE THEY SO URGENT? ARE THEY SO VITAL THAT THEY SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO ACCUMULATE AND THEN DUMPED ON OUR LAP FOR SUMMARY TREATMENT? IT HAS THE APPEARANCE THAT AT THE END OF THE 32ND SESSION THE TRASH CANS IN THE CORRIDORS OF THE UNITED NATIONS WERE EMPTIED INTO TRUCK LOADS DESTINED FOR MONTREAL, GENEVA AND ROME. THE VERY TREATMENT THAT THEY HAVE BEEN GIVEN IS ITSELF AN INDICATION THAT THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES ARE NOT REALLY EXPECTED TO TREAT THEM WITH ANY DEGREE OF URGENCY, LET ALONG RESPECT. IT IS WRONG THAT THIS SHOULD BE SO, BECAUSE THEY ARE MATTERS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE, EVEN THOUGH THEIR RELEVANCE TO THE WORK OF ICAO IS NOT SIGNIFICANT. WE ARE ALLOWING THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE PROBLEMS TO BE DIMINISHED IF WE GO ALONG IDLY WITH THIS TREATMENT OF THEM.

QUOTE: OUR TASK IS CONCERNED WITH CIVIL AVIATION. IT IS TO BUILD ON THE SOLID ACHIEVEMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

WHICH ARE NOW ENSHRINED IN THE ANNEXES TO THE CONVENTION AND OTHER FORMS OF DOCUMENTATION THAT HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED BY ICAO OVER THE YEARS. THEY ARE GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS OF WHICH WE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPRESENTING OURSELVES AND PREDECESSORS, CAN FEEL JUSTLY PROUD. THEY WERE ACHIEVED WITHOUT OSTENTATION AND WITH LITTLE POLITICAL LIMELIGHT. IF WE ALLOW OUR INTEREST AND CONCERN FOR CIVIL AVIATION MATTERS TO BE DIVERTED BY CONSIDERATIONS OF A POLITICAL KIND, HOWEVER IMPORTANT THOSE POLITICAL MATTERS MAY BE IN THEIR OWN RIGHT, WE ARE MAKING IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR THIS ORGANIZATION TO CARRY ON WITH ITS TASK AS EFFECTIVELY AS IT HAS IN THE PAST.

QUOTE: I RECOGNIZE THAT WHEN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ASKS THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES TO TAKE SOME ACTION, WE ARE UNDER AN OBLIGATION TO RESPOND. BUT IN MY VIEW OUR RESPONSE SHOULD TAKE COGNISANCE OF OUR OWN BASIC INTEREST FIRST AND FOREMOST. WE SHOULD LOOK SKEPTICALLY AT THESE REQUESTS, AND ASSESS THEM IN TERMS OF OUR CIVIL AVIATION RESPONSIBILITIES, AND PROMISE ACTION ONLY IN THOSE AREAS WHERE WE ARE IN A POSITION TO DELIVER. IN MY VIEW, MR. PRESIDENT, THERE ARE PRECIOUS FEW INSTANCES IN THE RESOLUTIONS WE ARE CONSIDERING WHERE WE WOULD EVEN BE ABLE TO TAKE ANY EFFECTIVE ACTION, HOWEVER WE MAY FEEL IN OUR HEARTS ABOUT THE WORTHINESS OF THE CAUSE.

(1) (IT WOULD THEREFORE HAVE BEEN MY PREFERENCE TO HAVE SEEN CWP 6704 TAKE A DIFFERENT TONE, DIRECTING THE SECRETARY GENERAAL)

(1) (I THEREFORE MOVE, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT THE PROPOSALS IN CWP 6704 BE SET ASIDE AND THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL BE DIRECTED) TO REPLY TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS THAT HE HAS DRAWN THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL TO THESE RESOLUTIONS AND THAT IT WILL BE FOR THE COUNCIL IN DUE TIME TO DECIDE ON WHAT ACTION, IF ANY, IT SHOULD TAKE, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF ITS CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES, IN RESPONSE TO ANY SPECIFIC REQUESTS FOR ACTION THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAY ARISE THEREFROM. UNQUOTE.
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Message Attributes

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